





For Release: Tuesday, August 16, 2016

16-1703-NEW

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY INFORMATION OFFICE: New York City, N.Y.

Technical information: (646) 264-3600 BLSinfoNY@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/new-york-new-jersey

Media contact: (646) 264-3620

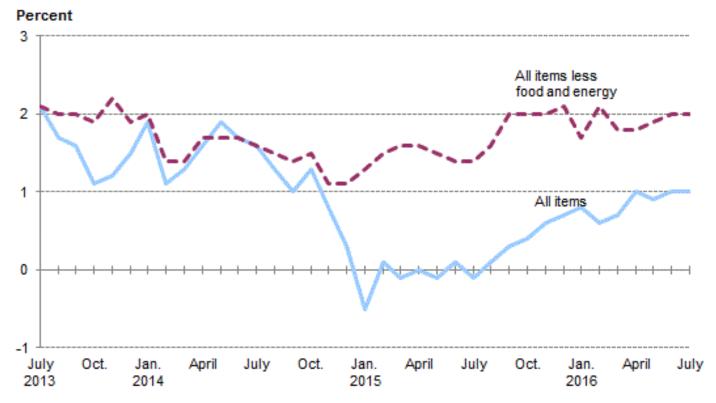
Incorrect prices for prescription drugs were used for the CPI-U and CPI-W indexes from May through August 2016 in a number of areas. Several indexes were affected, including the all items and medical care indexes. A list of the series affected can be found at www.bls.gov/bls/errata/cpi-price-corrections-10182016.htm, and the corrected data are available in the CPI database (www.bls.gov/cpi/data.htm).

# Consumer Price Index, New York-Northern New Jersey – July 2016 Area prices down 0.1 percent over the month and up 1.0 percent over the year

Prices in the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), inched down 0.1 percent in July after six consecutive months of increases, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli attributed the decline primarily to lower prices for energy. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the year, the CPI-U was up 1.0 percent. (See table A.) The index for all items less food and energy increased 2.0 percent. (See chart 1.) Higher prices for shelter drove the 12-month change in both indexes. (See table 1.)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, July 2013–July 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

#### Food

The food index ticked down 0.1 percent, following a 0.1-percent increase in June. Prices for food at home declined 0.5 percent. Items with lower prices included lettuce and pork chops. Prices for food away from home rose 0.5 percent.

Over the year, the food index rose 0.5 percent, as a 3.5-percent increase for away-from-home food prices was moderated by a 1.6-percent decline in at-home food prices.

## **Energy**

The energy index fell 1.1 percent in July, reflecting a 3.2-percent decrease in gasoline prices. Fuel oil prices also declined, while electricity prices remained unchanged. Natural gas prices increased 0.6 percent.

From July 2015 to July 2016, energy prices fell 9.8 percent. Gasoline prices dropped 18.3 percent and household energy prices declined 3.5 percent. Within the household energy category, electricity prices fell 2.6 percent, but natural gas prices rose 2.3 percent.

#### All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was unchanged in July. Prices advanced for shelter (0.4 percent) and for medical care (1.2 percent). Within shelter, prices rose 0.3 percent for residential rent and 0.1 percent for owners' equivalent rent. Offsetting the increases were lower prices for airline fares, recreation (-0.8 percent), and apparel (-1.1 percent).

For the year ended in July 2016, the index for all items less food and energy increased 2.0 percent. Shelter prices rose 3.1 percent, reflecting a 3.5-percent increase in residential rent and a 2.9-percent rise in owners' equivalent rent. Medical care prices advanced 6.1 percent, and prices for other goods and services rose 3.0 percent.

Table A. New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
Month	1-	12-	1-	12-	1-	12-	1-	12-	1-	12-	1-	12-
	month											
January	0.3	1.5	0.4	2.8	0.5	2.2	0.9	1.9	0.1	-0.5	0.2	0.8
February	0.5	2.1	0.4	2.6	0.6	2.4	-0.2	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.6
March	0.7	2.3	0.6	2.6	0.1	1.9	0.4	1.3	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.7
April	0.4	2.5	0.2	2.4	-0.2	1.4	0.0	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.4	1.0
May	0.6	2.9	0.1	1.8	0.1	1.4	0.5	1.9	0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.9
June	0.2	3.2	-0.1	1.6	0.3	1.8	0.0	1.7	0.2	0.1	0.3	1.0
July	0.3	3.3	-0.2	1.1	0.2	2.1	0.1	1.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.0
August	0.4	3.5	0.6	1.4	0.1	1.7	-0.2	1.3	0.1	0.1		
September	0.2	3.8	0.4	1.6	0.3	1.6	0.0	1.0	0.2	0.3		
October	-0.2	3.3	-0.1	1.7	-0.6	1.1	-0.2	1.3	-0.1	0.4		
November	-0.3	3.0	0.0	2.0	0.1	1.2	-0.4	0.8	-0.2	0.6		
December	-0.4	2.7	-0.3	2.1	0.0	1.5	-0.5	0.3	-0.4	0.7		

#### **CPI-W**

In July, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 258.211, down 0.1 percent over the month. The CPI-W rose 0.8 percent over the year.

The August 2016 Consumer Price Index for New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island is scheduled to be released Friday, September 16, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

### **Technical Note**

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 28 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.** 

The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Conn.-Pa. consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Bronx, Dutchess, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties in New York State; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren Counties in New Jersey; Fairfield County and parts of Litchfield, Middlesex, and New Haven Counties in Connecticut; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)(not seasonally adjusted)

		Indexes		Percent change from-			
Item and Group	May 2016	June 2016	July 2016	July 2015	May 2016	June 2016	
Expenditure category							
All items	263.310	264.022	263.868	1.0	0.2	-0.1	
All items (1967=100)	761.192	763.251	762.804				
Food and beverages	256.937	256.971	256.924	0.5	0.0	0.0	
Food	256.749	256.950	256.755	0.5	0.0	-0.1	
Food at home	250.536	250.577	249.377	-1.6	-0.5	-0.5	
Food away from home	272.376	272.814	274.078	3.5	0.6	0.5	
Alcoholic beverages	255.087	252.875	254.813	0.5	-0.1	0.8	
Housing	283.325	285.090	285.748	2.1	0.9	0.2	
Shelter	358.177	359.395	360.664	3.1	0.7	0.4	
Rent of primary residence (1)	370.558	370.763	371.871	3.5	0.4	0.3	
Owners' equivalent rent of residences (1) (2)	364.215	365.735	366.273	2.9	0.6	0.1	
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (1) (2)	363.763	365.279	365.812	2.9	0.6	0.1	
Fuels and utilities	175.645	183.803	184.064	-2.7	4.8	0.1	
Household energy	166.526	175.657	175.938	-3.5	5.7	0.1	
Energy services (1)	162.085	171.899	173.930	-1.3	6.3	0.2	
Electricity (1)	170.876	185.830	185.910	-2.6	8.8	0.2	
·	137.816		138.919			0.6	
Utility (piped) gas service (1)		138.137	I .	2.3	0.8		
Household furnishings and operations	112.821	111.832	110.614	-2.5	-2.0	-1.1	
Apparel	128.550	122.904	121.576	-3.1	-5.4	-1.1	
Transportation	212.896	213.339	210.150	-4.3	-1.3	-1.5	
Private transportation	196.689	196.811	195.538	-4.8	-0.6	-0.6	
Motor fuel	181.596	185.700	179.746	-18.3	-1.0	-3.2	
Gasoline (all types)	180.927	184.987	179.021	-18.3	-1.1	-3.2	
Gasoline, unleaded regular (3)	179.255	183.416	177.012	-19.1	-1.3	-3.5	
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade (3) (4)	192.150	195.673	191.900	-15.1	-0.1	-1.9	
Gasoline, unleaded premium <sup>(3)</sup>	194.316	197.842	194.696	-13.8	0.2	-1.6	
Medical care	461.351	466.843	472.391	6.1	2.4	1.2	
Recreation (5)	119.668	119.915	118.985	-0.1	-0.6	-0.8	
Education and communication (5)	142.858	142.978	143.003	1.6	0.1	0.0	
Other goods and services	414.242	414.894	416.559	3.0	0.6	0.4	
Commodity and service group							
All thoras	202.240	204.022	202.000	4.0	0.0	0.4	
All items  Commodities	263.310	264.022	263.868 184.711	1.0	0.2	-0.1	
	186.401	185.732		-2.5 5.1	-0.9 1.7	-0.5 1.0	
Commodities less food and beverages	143.100	142.144	140.731	-5.1 -6.0	-1.7 -1.7	-1.0 -1.3	
Nondurables less food and beverages  Durables	177.930 97.898	177.189 96.803	174.843 96.416	-6.0 -3.2	-1.7 -1.5	-1.3 -0.4	
Services	328.553	330.333	330.834	2.7	0.7	-0.4 0.2	
Special aggregate indexes							
	2-1		2-1			<u>.</u> -	
All items less medical care	254.694	255.206	254.815	0.7	0.0	-0.2	

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)(not seasonally adjusted) - Continued

		Indexes		Percent change from-			
Item and Group	May 2016	June 2016	July 2016	July 2015	May 2016	June 2016	
All items less shelter	225.777	226.286	225.552	-0.3	-0.1	-0.3	
Commodities less food	147.341	146.341	145.025	-4.8	-1.6	-0.9	
Nondurables	218.921	218.540	217.259	-2.4	-0.8	-0.6	
Nondurables less food	182.627	181.799	179.701	-5.6	-1.6	-1.2	
Services less rent of shelter (2)	307.033	309.468	309.160	2.1	0.7	-0.1	
Services less medical care services	317.912	319.635	319.755	2.3	0.6	0.0	
Energy	174.573	181.925	179.845	-9.8	3.0	-1.1	
All items less energy	273.722	273.819	273.843	1.8	0.0	0.0	
All items less food and energy	278.529	278.609	278.670	2.0	0.1	0.0	

#### Footnotes

- (1) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.
- (2) Index is on a December 1982=100 base.
- (3) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
- (4) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.
- (5) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.

The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA consolidated area comprises the five boroughs of New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess, and Orange Counties in New York State; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Monmouth, Middlesex, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren Counties in New Jersey; Fairfield County and parts of Litchfield, New Haven, and Middlesex Counties in Connecticut; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.